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## **Forward Movement for Missions**

**SERIES No. 4**

\*\*\* Synopsis of \*\*\*

# **Lectures on Manitoba**

**AND THE**

# **Northwest**

**DELIVERED BY**

**REV. JOHN MACLEAN, Ph.D.**

**CARMAN, MAN.**

**AT THE**

**Methodist Young People's Summer School**

**VICTORIA COLLEGE**

**Toronto, Ont., July 19th to 29th, 1902**

This interesting and instructive pamphlet furnishes reliable and valuable information on the West which should be carefully considered by every Young People's Society and Convention from the Atlantic to the Pacific. Copies supplied free on application to

**F. C. STEPHENSON, M.D.**

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# Synopsis of Lectures ON Manitoba and the Northwest

## Thirty Years After.

The prediction of the great American statesman, William H. Seward, is being fulfilled. "Canada," said he, "is destined to become the seat of a great empire, the Russia of North America, but a Russia with civilization more advanced than the Russia of Europe." The onward march of more than twice ten thousand sturdy souls in quest of new worlds to conquer in the west, marks the beginning of another epoch in the history of the church. Thirty years ago there was not a mile of railway in Manitoba, now there are more than 2,000 miles of railway within the boundaries of the Province. Thirty years ago Winnipeg was a hamlet of less than three hundred souls, now it has a population of more than 50,000. Here and there you might have seen near the muddy trails over the prairie the lodges of the Indians and half-breeds, with the significant picture-writing and scalp-locks, the creaking of the Red River cart was familiar music on the western breeze, and the log shanties of the settlers were prophecies of future greatness; but to-day there are paved streets and granolithic sidewalks, the electric cars, modern carriages, and automobiles have displaced the native conveyance with its shaganappi tires, electric lights, stately mansions, well appointed hotels, capacious stores and warehouses, an excellent system of water-works and sewerage, with all the conveniences of a modern city, are evidences of the wealth and enterprise of the citizens of the central city of the Dominion. The business of the clearing-house places Winnipeg next to Montreal and Toronto. In 1870 there was a stray trading post or Indian mission here and there west of Winnipeg, now there are stirring towns and cities in Manitoba and the Territories, including Portage la Prairie, Brandon, Neepawa, Dauphin, Virden, Moosomin, Regina, Moosejaw, Calgary, Lethbridge, Edmonton, Prince Albert, Morden, Souris, and Carman. Flour, hardware, and

groceries were brought into Manitoba by way of the Red River from St. Paul and other centres beyond the boundary line, and to Macleod and the far west from St. Louis and other cities by the Missouri River, but to-day we are exporting flour and oatmeal by the million barrels, and millions of bushels of wheat every year. From the western ranches our cattle are sent by thousands annually across the sea to feed the hungry millions of the British Isles. From the ports of the Sunrise Land of Japan and the Celestial Empire of China, the produce of the enterprising foreigners is swiftly borne across the Pacific by stately steamships, and over the prairies in one of the best equipped railroads in the world, to the cities of our own Dominion and the United States, and by steamers to Britain and the continent of Europe. The Red



CATTLE RANCHING.

River cart and stage-coach have given place to modern waggons, tramways, and palace cars. The buffalo have gone, pemmican is no longer the staple food of the country, the buffalo trails and wallows have been obliterated, shaganappi is a thing of the past, and we are a modern people. Thirty years ago the schools were few and far between, but to-day the University of Manitoba has four affiliated colleges in Winnipeg, and there is a Baptist college at Brandon, while there are about 1,500 public schools in the Province, about fifty intermediate schools at central points, and three collegiate institutes, having a school population of 70,000, and about 1,700 teachers. In the Territories there is an excellent school system, with abundant accommodation and good facilities for receiving an education. Graduates of the university in arts, law, medicine, and theology are increasing in

numbers, and faithfully doing their duty in Church and State. In 1868, Dr. George Young laid the foundation of our white work in the hamlet of Winnipeg, and surrounding country, and until 1883 this was included in the Toronto Conference; now there is a Conference 1,400 miles long, from Lake Superior to the Rocky Mountains, with an illimitable width from the international boundary to the frozen north. There are now fifteen districts having 142 ordained ministers, 81 probationers, and 49 missionary teachers, a working force of 272, not including the effective agencies of local preachers and class-leaders, with a great host in the leagues and Sunday-schools. There are nine churches in Winnipeg, and in the Conference 257, with others in course of erection. In Manitoba there are 124 charges, 66 of which are self-sustaining. The population of the Province increased in the last ten years 152,506, which is 67 per cent. The Anglicans increased during that period 14,022, which is 45 per cent.; the Presbyterians 26,309, or 67 per cent.; and the Methodists 21,472, or 75 per cent., and this last is greater than the percentage of increase for the Province, besides the fact that about 20,000 of the increase of population are foreigners, belonging to the Greek, Roman, or Lutheran Church. In the Territories the population, as shown by the last census, has increased 92,231, which is 138 per cent.; the Anglicans have increased 11,246, which is 78 per cent.; the Presbyterians 15,299, or 122 per cent.; and the Methodists 14,228, which is 178 per cent. Methodism has, therefore, increased in percentage in Manitoba and the Territories more rapidly than the percentage of the population. We have church property valued at more than \$800,000, and there was raised for all purposes during 1901-1902 the sum of \$302,543. Fifty preaching-places were opened during the past year in Edmonton District alone. Last year we asked for forty ministers, and this year we are in need of sixty more men.

#### Western Areas.

Look at the land areas of the west, and see the possibilities of the new empire which is in the making. The ten north-western States—Minnesota, Iowa, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Montana, Wyoming, Idaho, Washington, Oregon—include 859,325 square miles, while the organized Provinces and districts west of Ontario—Manitoba, Keewatin, Assiniboin, Saskatchewan, Alberta, Athabasca, British Columbia—include 1,245,305 square miles, which is nearly fifty per cent. greater than the American Northwest. Still beyond these Provinces and

districts lies an unorganized territory with an area of more than 1,600,000 square miles. The Canadian Northwest falls naturally into three great divisions, namely, the wooded region, mostly rocky and swampy, with some areas of good land, extending northward until it reaches the barren grounds, then the prairie region from the great chain of inland lakes to the Rocky Mountains, and from the boundary line almost to the Arctic Ocean, and the alpine region from the Rocky Mountains to the Pacific Coast. The Province of Manitoba is equal in size to England, Ireland, and Scotland put together, and has a population of 254,000. Assiniboia has 34,000,000 acres, with a population of 68,000. Saskatchewan is nearly as large as England, Ireland, and Scotland put together, and is capable of sustaining an almost equal population, and Alberta has 106,100 square miles, with a population of 66,000.

#### Water Stretches.

The great water stretches of the west reveal the possibilities of the country. There are more than 10,000 miles of rivers navigable by steamer west of Lake Superior. It is possible to go by water from the mouth of the St. Lawrence through the great lakes, and down the Mackenzie to the Arctic Ocean, a trip of more than 6,000 miles, in which less than 150 miles will necessarily be on land. Great Bear Lake is 150 miles long, Athabasca Lake 230 miles long, and Great Slave Lake is 300 miles long, with an average width of 50 miles. The Mackenzie River is in some places seven miles wide, with an average width of four miles, and is described by Archbishop Clut, as a deeper, wider, and grander river than the St. Lawrence, and it furnishes with its tributaries 2,500 miles of navigable rivers.

#### Climate.

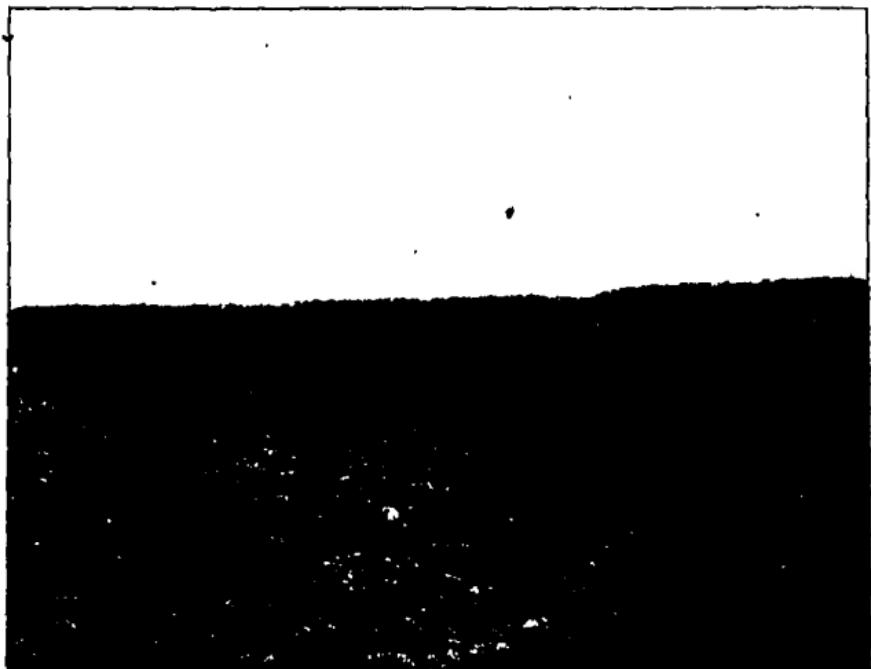
You must expect differences of climate when distances are so great, but it is well to note that the general idea, that the further north you go the colder it becomes, is not true. In the great Northwest, from Iowa to the Peace River Valley, and even on to the shores of the Great Slave Lake, a range of nearly twenty degrees of latitude, the climatic conditions are essentially the same. It is a region marked by great heat in summer, and intense cold in the winter. The salient features of the western climate are a clear, bracing atmosphere during the greater part of the year, cold winters and warm summers, and a small rainfall and snow-fall. The mean temperature for July, at Winnipeg, is 66 degrees, and at Prince Albert

62 degrees, the former temperature being higher than any part of England, and the latter similar to that found in many parts of the southern counties. As an evidence of the similarity of the climatic conditions over a wide extent of territory, take the crocus, which is the firstling of the spring on the prairie. The purple anemone, or wildflower, with its delicate lavender petals, is fully ten days in advance of other venturesome spring blossoms. It appears on the dry elevations near Winnipeg on April 15, during the rebellion of 1885 it was observed on the Saskatchewan on April 13, while it was seen in profusion by Major Butler, on the Peace River, 1,500 miles from St. Paul, on April 20, while 1,000 miles beyond, on the Yukon, within the Arctic Circle, Archdeacon McDonald gathered it on May 14.

#### Altitude and Growth.

The relation of altitude to latitude has not generally been noticed by observers as affecting climate. Latitude has something to do with climate, but altitude overcomes the influence of latitude, as shown by the mountains crowned with snow in the tropics. It is important to note the decline of altitude in northern lands. The great central plain of North America is two miles high in Mexico, the elevation at the crossing of the Canadian Pacific Railroad on the south branch of the Saskatchewan, near latitude 51 degrees, is 3,000 feet ; in the Athabasca district, latitude 55 degrees, it is 2,000 feet ; in the valleys of the Liard and Peace Rivers, latitude 56 degrees to 60 degrees, it is 1,000 feet, and still falls as you go northward, until the navigable channel of the Mackenzie River is reached, when the elevation is only 300 feet above the Arctic Ocean. The difference in the altitude of the continental plain in Wyoming and in the valley of the Mackenzie River is equivalent in its climatic effect to 13 degrees of latitude. The great Japan current sweeps northward to the Arctic Sea, and is deflected along the shores of Alaska and British Columbia, and produces effects similar to that of the Gulf Stream on the climate of Norway and Britain. A large portion of the northern Pacific coast has a rainy season and a dry season after the fashion of tropical lands, and consequently there is little ice, and the ameliorating influence of this warm river of the sea extends into the interior. The mountain barriers in the north are not so lofty, and are less in width. The Union Pacific crosses the Rockies at an elevation of 8,000 feet, the Canadian Pacific Railway

at a little over 4,000 feet, while the passes of the Peace and Pine Rivers have an elevation of 2,500 feet above the sea level. The Chinook wind in Southern Alberta makes that district a splendid ranching country, where horses and cattle roam the prairies all the year round without any stable accommodation, and keep in excellent condition. Light is as important as heat in the growth of vegetation, and while in Manitoba the high day temperatures, with much sunshine, cause the crops to mature quickly, the days in the far northern latitudes are much longer than in the south. The wonderful rapidity with which vegetation advances in latitude 56 degrees, which may be taken as the average of the Peace River country, is partly due to the longer days, sunrise occur-

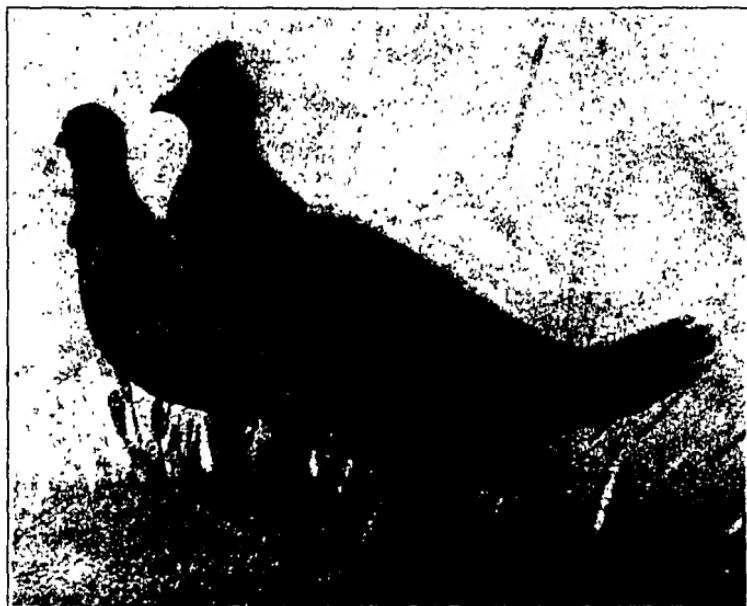


#### SHEEP RANCHING.

ring there on June 20, at 3.12 a.m., and sunset at 8.50 p.m., which is a difference in the length of daylight of two hours or more, as compared with points in Iowa and Nebraska. Throughout the Northwest grasses, grains, and vegetables mature in a much shorter time than in the regions further south, and Archbishop Clut speaks of the trees passing in a single week from bud to perfect leaf at Fort Simpson, at the junction of the Liard and Mackenzie Rivers. To the plodding farmer of lands beyond the sea it seems incredible that in Manitoba and the Territories, in five months or less, an area of 1,500,000 acres should yield 30,000,-000 bushels of wheat, and as much more of other grains.

### A Land of Beauty.

When Sir George Simpson, Governor of the Hudson's Bay Company, testified in a British court that the prairies of Manitoba were unfit for human habitation, few people ventured to differ with the statement. Even to-day some persons are inclined to believe that the great Northwest is a congenial habitation for Indians and trappers, and are startled when they are told that the west is destined to be the granary of the world, and the ranching centres are the home of the buffalo, where tens of thousands of cattle, horses, and sheep fatten



THE PRAIRIE HEN (PINNATED GROUSE).

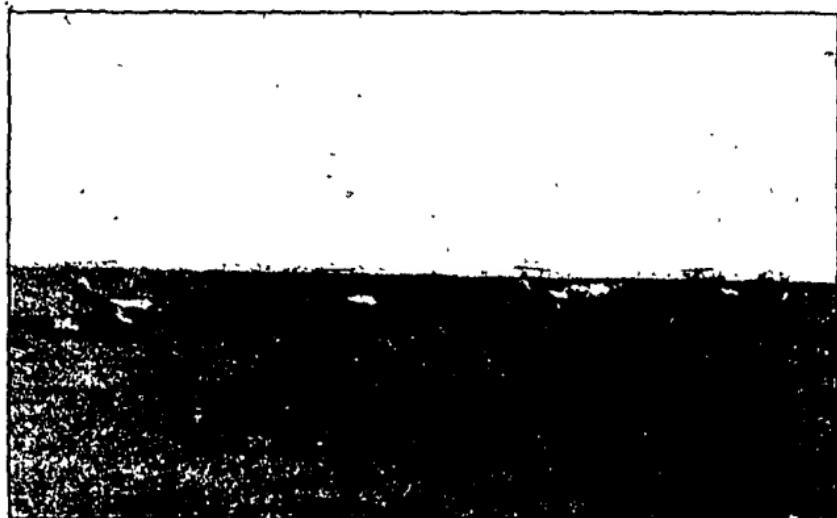
in peace in the land of the Chinook, when the denizens of the east shiver in silence amid the wintry snow. The western half of the Dominion is only being discovered, and the annual reports of the Department of the Interior and the Geological Survey are records of exploration whose pages bristle with fascinating tales of new lands awaiting the enterprise of industrious farmers from ayont the sea. Some old maps used to show a low range of mountains stretching east and west for hundreds of miles west of Lake Athabasca, but if you will travel through that region, you will

look in vain for the mountains, and find, with surprise, a beautiful prairie, stretching westward and northward to the great sentinels, with their tops crowned with eternal snow, looking down upon the peaceful habitations of man. The beautiful Peace River, half a mile wide, flows through a deep chasm, whose sand-stone cliffs rise seven hundred feet in the air, and what seems to be mountains on either side is a wide prairie land awaiting the coming of thousands of enterprising farmers to till the soil. The alpine regions of the Rocky Mountains abound in magnificent glaciers and sublime scenery, grand enough to charm the heart of the ultra-pessimist, and stir the emotions of the most intrepid mountain-climber of east or west. Far away to the north, in the country of the Great Bear and Great Slave Lakes, is the wooded belt of the Northwest, containing spruce, tamarack, and sub-arctic trees, and a rocky and swampy tract, with some areas of good land. Our surveyors and explorers have, during the past twenty years, been making changes in the maps by finding new waterways and changing the courses of the old ones. Nestling among the Rocky Mountains are lovely lakes, some of them thirty and forty miles long, hot springs here and there, famous for their medicinal properties, and beautiful waterfalls tumbling down the mountains for hundreds of feet. The National Park at Banff, on the western edge of Alberta, is one of the noted breathing spots of the continent, where bridle paths lead up the mountains to lovely points of vision, and magnificent panoramas are unfolded to the astonished tourist. The Great Glacier of the Selkirks stretches up the mountains for nine miles, and is from a mile to a mile and a half in width, with a depth of solid ice five hundred feet thick. The rich wheat lands of the Red River Valley and the Saskatchewan were the talk of the world for some years, but it never seemed to occur to any one that the great plains farther west, where the buffalo roamed in thousands, were admirable grazing lands, but at last the discovery was made, and ranchers found a paradise, and cattle have taken the place of the bison in the west.

#### The Maximum of Fructification.

In the west the region of vigorous winters, cold, moist springs, and dry but intense summers, the undue luxuriance of stem and foliage is checked in the earlier stages of growth, greatly to the advantage of the fruit and seed. Near the northernmost limit at which cultivated plants can be grown they

yield the greatest product. The potato comes to full perfection in northern latitudes or cool, moist insular situations. In Iowa, near the southern border of the spring wheat region, seldom more than two well-formed grains are found in each cluster or fascicle forming the row, in Manitoba three grains become habitual, while in wheat from Prince Albert or the Saskatchewan, and Fort Vermilion on the Peace River, each cluster is made up of five well-formed grains. In the islands beyond the mouth of the Mackenzie, far beyond the Arctic Circle, lies the northern limit of trees. On the western prairies there is no timber except along the rivers, and this is not abundant, but there is coal sufficient to supply the whole continent for several centuries. In the regions of the Belly and Bow Rivers it is estimated that there are about eight hundred million



HARVESTING.

tons of good coal, while the coal area of the Northwest is sixty-five thousand square miles, with from five million to nine million tons under each mile, and this ranges in quality from lignite to bituminous and anthracite. The sage advice of Horace Greeley, "Go west, young man," must now be changed to "Go north, young man."

#### The Western Movement of Population.

De Tocqueville said, "Population moves westward as if driven by the mighty hand of God," and this seems true, for the race began its ceaseless pilgrimage in the mountain valleys of Asia, and ever onward the mighty column has pressed over mountain walls and treacherous leagues of unmapped seas, until it seems destined to reach its final home

on the western coast of our continent. A great inrush of population has suddenly awakened us to a sense of our opportunity and responsibilities. A new era has dawned, and the mighty host tramping with ceaseless tread across the prairies calls us to halt for a moment and ask the significance of this new movement. From January 1 to May 1, 1902, 24,122 immigrants came to Canada, of whom Britain furnished 5,164, the continent of Europe 7,478, and the United States 11,480. Of this number the Maritime Provinces received four per cent., Quebec nine per cent., Ontario twelve per cent., and Manitoba, the Northwest, and British Columbia seventy-five per cent. During the first five months of the present year (1902), the recorded arrivals in the west from the United States were about fifteen thousand persons, and it is estimated that thirty thousand Americans will settle in the west during the calendar year. Of these so-called Americans, forty or fifty per cent. of them were born in Canada, and they are coming home. Ninety-five per cent. of them say that Canadian institutions are better than those they left behind, and the administration of justice in the Dominion is to them a matter of sincere commendation. Nearly twice as many settlers have arrived during this year as during the same period last year. The American invasion is one of peace, and the number already in the west is equal to about twenty regiments of soldiers. Since the last census was taken in 1890, the centre of population has moved westward and northward. Ten years ago the centre of population for the Dominion was at a point in eastern Ontario, not far from Ottawa, but by the growth of western Canada that point has moved westward. A year ago the population east of the Ottawa River was 2,369,272, and west of it 2,431,799, showing that as Winnipeg is geographically the centre of the Dominion, it is destined to become the centre of population.

#### Capitalists Combine to Assist Colonization.

The western wave of immigration is arresting the attention of American capitalists. Several companies have been organized with capital ranging from one hundred thousand to one million dollars, and great blocks of land have been sold. One purchase was made early in June of seventy thousand acres for two hundred thousand dollars in cash, and one million, one hundred thousand acres has been sold to a company. It is the intention to settle this land, and the method of settlement is to plough fifty or sixty acres on a half-section, and erect

a house, and then give the settler time to pay for them. As can easily be seen, this is a much more satisfactory way than for a poor man to take up a homestead and spend a year in getting things ready for a crop. Thirty-five thousand farmers in 1901, in Manitoba, sowed with wheat 2,110,085 acres, yielding 50,582,085 bushels; oats, 689,591 acres, yielding 50,582,085 bushels; barley, 191,009 acres, yielding 6,536,105 bushels; while of flax, rye, and peas there was a yield of 345,030 bushels. The total area under crop in Manitoba this year is 3,189,015 acres, being a million more acres than last year, while the wheat acreage is larger than any previous year. There are twenty million acres of good land in Manitoba still unoccupied, and in the Territories there are many millions of acres ready for occupation. The homestead entries in the west for the month of May were double those during the same period last year. No less than forty-five homestead entries were made in one week in a single land office on the Calgary and Edmonton Railway. In 1891 the total number of elevators in the west, including five at Port Arthur in western Ontario was four hundred and twenty-six, with a capacity of 18,880,000 bushels, while on July 1 of the present year there were five hundred and forty-four elevators, having a storage capacity of 23,100,000 bushels, being an increase of more than 4,000,000 bushels. So promising is the crop of the present year that there will be required twenty thousand men from the east to help us with the harvest.

#### The Foreign Factor.

The elements of western immigration are of greater importance in the development of the country than its proportions, as the character of the settlers must inevitably mould our laws and institutions, and exert an influence upon the social, political, commercial, and religious life of the people. Americans, immigrants from the Motherland, and foreigners comprise the population seeking homes in the west. More than twenty languages are spoken by the representatives of nations within our western borders, not including the native tribes. Among the nationalities may be mentioned the Slavs, Finns, Danes, Mennonites, Icelanders, Swedes, Norwegians, Hungarians, Jews, Poles, Russians, Bohemians, Galicians, Germans, Doukhobors, and the religious sects of Mormons, Moravians, Dunkards, and Hutterites. British liberty, righteous laws and institutions, and kind treatment, form a triad of compulsory measures, which is making these people contented, so that they are adapting themselves to the new conditions of life and thought.

### The Galicians.

In Manitoba and the Northwest there are 30,000 Galicians. These people came from Galicia, one of the crown lands of Austria, bounded by Russia, the Carpathian Mountains in Hungary, Prussian Silesia, and Bukowina. The two principal nationalities are Poles and Ruthenians, and three languages are spoken by them, namely, Polish, Ruthenian, and German. They are all agriculturists and industrious, and are likely to become good settlers. Although illiterate, they are apt to learn, the young people especially rapidly acquiring the English language. The Polish section of these people are Roman Catholics, which comprises ten per cent. of the entire population, and the Ruthenian remainder belong to the Greek Orthodox Church, who are known as the Bukowinians. Missions have been organized among them by the Roman Catholics, Presbyterians, Baptists, and Methodists. A delegation of leading business men and ministers some time ago waited upon the Manitoba Government with a request that English schools be organized and maintained by the State, in order that the young people may be educated as citizens of the Dominion.

### The Doukhobors.

A striking scene, suggestive of the landing of the Pilgrim Fathers, was witnessed at St. John, New Brunswick, when two thousand Doukhobors came into port on the steamer "Lake Huron," with heads bared, and singing a psalm of praise. Thousands of Canadians greeted them on the wharf, and the immigrants from Batoum responded cordially, many of them getting upon their knees, and touching the decks with their foreheads. Count Leo Tolstoi, the Russian novelist, has taken a deep interest in this persecuted sect, having given the profits of the sale of one of his books to assist them in removing to Canada. The British Quakers, represented by Mr. Aylmer Maude, and the American Quakers, represented by Messrs. Joseph Elkington, of Philadelphia, and Job Gidley, of North Portsmouth, have rendered eminent service in helping them in their hour of trouble. "Doukhobor" originally meant one who fights against images, and they were formerly accustomed to call themselves simply Christians, but now they accept the title of Doukhobors, but by it they mean, warriors for the faith. They have also been nicknamed spirit-wrestlers, though they prefer to call themselves Christians of the Universal Brotherhood. A century and a half ago this sect arose in Southern Russia, repudiating all

the religious ceremonies and outward ritual of the Greek-Russian Church, and at once a series of persecutions began, until they were allowed to emigrate to a tract of land on the northern shore of the Sea of Azov, where they lived undisturbed for fifty years. Since that time they have been subjected to numerous persecutions, until February, 1898, when, through the intervention of the Empress Maria, they were permitted to leave Russia, and from thence they came to Canada. There are now between eight and nine thousand located near Yorkton, in Southern Assiniboa, and in the Saskatchewan district. There are some notable leaders in the communities, who have spent several years of imprisonment in Siberia, having been deprived of their wealth, and subjected to great hardship. In religious belief they resemble the Quakers. Their teaching is founded on tradition, called by them "The Book of Life," because it lives in their memories and hearts, and consists of psalms composed from portions of the Old and New Testaments, with independent matter. They are communists, holding land in common, and do not recognize any human laws, believing that the divine law is sufficient, and though they have seemed to be antagonistic to the laws of the Dominion in refusing to register their homesteads, or secure licenses for marriages, with other matters relating to the State, it is believed that they will ultimately come into harmony with our laws and institutions. They are a peaceable people, kind to the poor and needy, and industrious. A young English lady has gone to one of the settlements a short time ago as school-teacher, and good results are expected from her labors in teaching them the English language. None of the denominations have engaged in mission work among them, and they desire to be left alone in the matter of religion.

#### The Mormons.

In Southern Alberta there is a large colony of Mormons, with Mr. Charles Ora Card, the founder of Cardston, who is a son-in-law of Brigham Young, as their leader. For fourteen years these people have been very industrious, and by shrewdness and enterprise have laid the foundation of a model colony, which now comprises several thriving villages. Although they do not practise polygamy, they still believe in it, and will defend it when called upon to do so. Mr. Knight, the Utah millionaire, has imported 45,000 head of sheep, for speculation, and to encourage his co-religionists in the sheep-raising industry. This gentleman is

establishing a beetroot sugar industry, spending \$500,000 in developing it. The Mormon idea of missionary work was in former years centralization, having a centre in Utah territory from which to evangelize the world, but to-day the ruling thought is expansion, by establishing colonies in various districts, and from these to strive to bring the world into harmony with the tenets of Joseph Smith and his followers. There is a Presbyterian missionary laboring among them, while seeking to minister to the Gentile settlers in the vicinity.

The problem of the foreigners in the west is one of deep concern for those who look twenty years ahead. Within a short period the settlers from across the seas will be citizens of the Dominion, with the right to cast their ballots for those who represent all nationalities in the Provincial and Federal Parliaments, and that class in society or religious organization which takes care of them and moulds them according to their ideal, will naturally expect to hold the balance of power. The foreign element may become an important moral factor in the building of a new nation in the west. If these people grow up in a state of illiteracy, they will become a prey to corrupt politicians and makers of mischief, and our systems of education, with our noble public institutions, will be in danger. The future lies in the present, and this is burdened with serious responsibilities for all patriots and freedom-loving citizens. Shall the foreign factor, in its native condition, or moulded by alien influences, lay hands upon our sacred institutions, or shall the churches awaken to the new conditions and new rivalries, and strive to fashion these people into intelligent and honest citizens of the Empire?

Recently there came to our western land a party of two hundred and thirty Welsh settlers from Patagonia. For twenty-five years they have lived in Patagonia, which Darwin said was the greatest bed of shingle in the world. Professor Drummond wrote that the Almighty made worlds to make themselves, but Patagonia has not yet finished itself. The first batch of colonists went there thirty-six years ago, and dug holes in the cliffs on the sea-shore, where they might find shelter from the weather. In a land of scrub and vegetation of a variety of cactus, they were often driven to such straits as to be compelled to live on wild potatoes. By introducing an irrigation system, which at the present time comprises two hundred miles of canals at a cost of two and a quarter million

dollars, they were able to obtain a living. By raising stock and grain they became prosperous, until their crops were destroyed by locusts and a disastrous flood, which destroyed the irrigation canals, and many of the homes of the settlers. The Argentine authorities treated them well, helping by contributions, but there was no room for expansion, and the military service, by which the army was recruited by conscription, became galling to them, and they resolved to seek homes in western Canada. This contingent is an acquisition to the west, as the people are thrifty, the men are excellent ranchers and farmers, and there is no doubt that in a few years they will be numbered among the most prosperous settlers in the west.

#### Western Education.

The need of to-day is to have men of vision who can see the beautiful city of God in the regenerated society of the future in Manitoba and the Northwest. In the achievements of the last twenty-five years there has been great advancement. In the Victorian age, as in the Tudor, exploration and science have advanced hand in hand, with the difference that whereas the explorations initiated by Vasco da Gama and Columbus were mainly voyages, those of Livingstone and his successors have penetrated further inland, and whereas the science of Bacon's time was the discovery of facts and principles, ours has been the invention of useful works. In the Dominion during the past twenty-five years there have been many changes marking the progress of the nation. There has been change in art, literature, morals, politics, and religion, but change, like Janus, looks two ways. History must not confine itself to progress, for there is as much to record, and perhaps more to be learned from the pathology of an age. As the tide of immigration is flowing westward, and Winnipeg is the geographical centre of the Dominion, the time may come when it will set the fashion in culture and spiritual life for the Dominion.

#### Relating Education to the Church and State.

Standing at the gateway of the new empire in the west, we are confronted with the march of the dangerous classes, who are seeking homes on the boundless prairies west of the great lakes. Ignorant people are always dangerous, not because they wish to do wrong, but they become more easily excited than the intelligent, and are led astray by bad and selfish men. It is injurious to a nation when the citizens allow the passionate, selfish, and careless to take

charge of the machinery of the Government. The enemies of Canada are injustice, dishonesty, lawlessness, and greed. The most dangerous men are those who have good homes, culture, and wealth, and are as idle as tramps, never doing anything for the public good, and never join hands to redeem the nation from misrule and waste. It is the work of the church to establish the kingdom of heaven among men, to reconstitute human society, and to regenerate and inspire the State with an aspiration after a divine ideal. The great work that lies before all religions is to remake man in the image of God, and to a Christian that religion is the truest which helps most to make men like Christ. The church labors in the van of human progress, educating the community up to an ever-widening and expanding conception of social obligations. As soon as her educational work is complete she hands over to the State the performance of duties which formerly were exclusively discharged by her. The relief of the poor, establishment of hospitals, opening of libraries, and education of children, were, in former times, entrusted to her, but as she educated the people, she transferred these duties to the care of the State, without losing any of her responsibilities or her share of the work. Her duty has now become indirect. Instead of relieving the poor, teaching the young, and caring for the sick, her duty is to see that the public bodies never fall below the standard in morals and philanthropy which she attained. It is the duty of the church to be the pioneer of social progress, and the educator of moral sentiment, so as to render it possible to throw upon the whole community the duties which at first were borne by a few. The heterogeneous population of the west is an invitation to service. General education is necessary to the existence of civil society in its present form. Whilst living under a monarchical form of government, we are essentially a democracy. No democracy in the modern world can be permanent or be secure which is not an educated democracy. The public school is then the first care of the community, as it is the most benevolent and the most influential of all our institutions. Education, however, is not knowledge which comes from books, but that which has its source in a clean press, pure social and civic institutions, and right living on the part of every man and woman.

#### Patriotism and Education.

Sometimes the nation fails to rise to great occasions. It is true that a great people can-

not live for generations under the constant influence of schools and libraries and churches which represent noble ideals without being dominated by those influences which give them mighty reserve forces. The old patriotism made the heroes of the battle-field patriots, and left out all other folk, the new patriotism includes all who live for their country in peace and war. It is the mission of Methodism in the west to place before the people a new political and national ideal. It is her mission to enforce the ruling idea of the British Empire, and to enter into sympathy with the movements of the age.

What is to be the future of the west? To every lover of his country the most anxious inquiry will be, not whether the Dominion shall become commercially and materially supreme among the nations, so much as whether she will fulfil the hopes of the Christian world in becoming the great theatre for the highest development of Christian civilization that the earth has yet seen. Great hopes and fears centre in the Northwest, and great opportunities and dangers lie before us. God has brought together in this new land all the conditions for the most signal display of the Gospel. A great forward movement in the west will be an inspiration and blessing to all mankind. The stupendous issue before us as a people is whether or not the vast resources and powers of this country shall be swayed in the interests of Christian civilization. The public conscience must be educated, the tide of national hatreds must be stemmed, and an intelligent interest must be stimulated in municipal and political issues. We must do some great thing to make the west in the twentieth century a happier country than it has ever been. The people must be so educated that they will work together to make their homes and towns beautiful and noble. Moral issues must ever be kept to the front. Rough missionary work has kept the pioneers of the west from sinking perilously near the level of the savagery against which they were contending. Without this devotion, the fierce and rude virtues and sombre faults of the early settlers would have been left unlit by the flame of pure and loving aspiration.

We belong to that sect which has no dread of death, and with a divine enthusiasm we must have no contracted aims and poor schemes and paltry work, but must ever cry, "Amplius! Amplius! wider and further; more and still more." Westward lies our grandest opportunity and chief responsibility. Whatever the State may do, the church must go beyond. Our ideals must be high, our

teachers must be the most proficient, our people must loyally support our institutions, and our finances must not lag in one supreme effort to win the west. As all the great movements for the development of the race have sprung from the common people, from them must come aggressive methods and spiritual life. The benedictions of the mountains are resting upon the prairies, and the west is calling to the East to listen to the tread of ten thousands, and answer by a gift of heroism and faith. The sources of strength in the west, and for the whole Dominion, are high ideals, conscience, and a real fellowship. Fifty thousand Methodists in Manitoba, and a great host in the Northwest, call upon you to help them to do their share in building a new empire in the west.

#### The New Evangelism.

We began in the west in missionary work among the Indians, and we are going to close with men of all nations. We commenced with foreign tongues, and we shall finish with the English language. When the English-speaking world wanted three great writers, it looked westward, and found them all in Winnipeg, the first as a city school-teacher, Miss Agnes Laut, author of "The Lords of the North," and "Heralds of Empire"; the second as naturalist to the Manitoba Government, Mr. Ernest Seton-Thompson, the master of "The Lives of the Hunted," and the third as Presbyterian minister in the city, Rev. C. W. Gordon, the maker of "The Man from Glengarry." If you have any literary bent, or your genius is burdened with the fences and moist atmosphere of the east, come west, and the ozone of this great country may awaken your latent powers to discover a hero or an artist of literature. The man from Manitoba is not a second-hand Englishman, but a genuine Canadian—a type of colonial development, who has not resided long enough on the prairies to form a special western face. He is of good stature, strong in brawn and brain, with just enough of virility to make a tough soldier. The western type of womanhood is marked by physical beauty, born of the western skies, and independence native to the soil. A new empire is in the making beyond Lake Superior. Bound by the ties of kinship, and inspired by a national ideal, the people are rising to meet their opportunity to mould great and noble institutions worthy of their fathers. Climate and religion are touching their blood and generating new ideas. The mountains, lakes, and rivers, are making rugged men, and the day is dawning when we shall develop national

bards to sing the songs of the west. There are heroes of the faith ready to do and dare for righteousness, when the hour comes for martyrs. "The Cotter's Saturday Night" remains as a heritage on the plains. There is no disposition to travel toward Plymouth or Rome, but a strong leaning toward the ancient faith.

We have reached the critical period in our history. We are confronted with new rivalries, and grave problems, and the next ten years shall witness greater strides in development than any previous single decade. Political, social, and religious life is in need of godly men to touch every phase with the anti-septic salt of consecrated endeavor. This is the era of opportunity. The challenge of God



METHODIST CHURCH, KILLARNEY, MAN.

has been given to modern heroes in the boundless possibilities of the west. Here is a challenge to men of faith, who are possessed of wealth, to lay foundations for palaces which shall endure when time has shaken the dust from her weary feet. This is an invitation to empire-builders. The greatest century is here, with its burdens and responsibilities, and the Dominion must share in the awakening of nations, and enjoy the heritage of the human race. The door of opportunity is open to all the earth, and Canada must keep step with the majestic march of empire. The earth has been lent to us, and belongs to those who come after us, therefore we have no right to burden posterity with penalties, or deprive our successors of benefits in our power to bequeath.

unto them. Manitoba and the Northwest is no mean factor in the building of the Dominion, and indeed, in the moulding of the Empire. The war in South Africa has turned the eyes of the world westward. The Canadian contingents have left a name for prowess that can never be forgotten. The illimitable prairies, and the abundant harvest, have not alone drawn twenty thousand young men to lodge awhile in the west, but in many homes in the east there are hearts following these western workers in our harvest fields. From ocean to ocean we are linked in toil and triumph with every home. The song of the Manitoba binder has been heard around the world. The quality of our wheat will affect the market price in the exchanges of Chicago and London. Two hundred and fifty thousand people in Manitoba must not be compared with the same number in the metropolis of the world. The freedom of the western spirit, the energy begotten through private ownership of land, and the enthusiasm of prosperity increases the height of the man from Manitoba. The settler on the prairies is transformed into a builder of an empire. Every year we are adding to our foundations. The four great institutions of the Dominion, the state, the church, the school, and the press, are fully represented, and are important educative forces in the Province. Our cosmopolitan population has increased sixty-seven per cent. during the past decade. The foreign tongues of our immigrants are yielding to the onward march of the language spoken by one hundred and thirty millions of the human race.

#### The Invitation to Women.

When our first census was taken in 1871, it was discovered that the population of the Dominion was composed of 42,851 more males than females, and we find by the last census that there are 131,895 more males than females. Canada is a man's country, from the fact that all new countries first attract men who are more adventurous and better fitted for pioneer life than women. In Manitoba there are 21,717, and in the Territories 57,851 more males than females. There is an increasing demand for woman's help, and especially for servant-girls. Although organized effort has induced a considerable number to immigrate, still there is a loud call for women to lend their assistance in making a new civilization in this land. The farther west you travel the scarcity increases, and with the demand, the compensation is greater. The permanency of western settlements is assured. Im-

provements are taking place in the methods of agriculture. The number of mortgages on farms is decreasing, and the rate of interest is falling. The east has an interest in the west, for as settlers multiply, there will be an increasing demand for western products, and in the handling of them, the ports on the seaboard will be strengthened by the exportation of our goods. The west has still room for men, and is in great need of women.

#### The Greatest Colony,

Of the forty-eight colonies belonging to the British Empire, Canada remains the greatest of them all. Joaquin Miller, the prophet and poet of the Sierras, said, long ago, "Canada is Egypt, India, and the mighty Mississippi Valley in one," etc. "Fine writing," said the United States, "but what fiction!" Yet to-day Canada announces that her wheat harvest for this year is sufficient to feed the world! And we have grown since that statement of the poet was uttered. We have made some advances since Cabot looked upon our fair land in 1497. At capitulation in 1763 there were 70,000 French-Canadians, but to-day our population is numbered by millions, and there is room for millions more. Canada is forty times the size of Great Britain. She has a great length of seacoast line, and possesses inland seas, mountains, lakes, and an excellent river system. At Confederation, in 1867, our agricultural exports amounted to twenty million dollars, which has increased to sixty million. Our wheat has obtained the highest prices in the European markets. It has secured gold medals at London, Chicago, and San Francisco. In 1870, the first carload of cattle was shipped from the Northwest, in 1895 the export amounted to one million dollars, and has been increasing in volume. Our fisheries are the greatest in the world. The British Columbia coast line is more than 7,000 miles, being twice that of the British Isles; the eastern coast up only to Belle Isle is 5,600 miles. The inshore salt water comprises 15,000 square miles, and the fresh water 36,350 square miles. Seventy thousand men are engaged in the fishing trade. The salmon caught in twelve years in British Columbia amounted to twenty-one million dollars. Our fish supply is inexhaustible. We take the lead in the world's markets for white pine, as there is no white pine outside of America, except in Siberia. Our spruce timber is almost inexhaustible, and we have the timber to make pulp for the best paper. July 1776, and July 1, 1867, represent the beginning of two great nations working harm-

side by side, and these dates till the present tell the story of great enterprises and wonderful development. The Dominion is a star with many rays, showing a united people. The colonial parade in London was an object-lesson to the world of the unity of the Empire, for never was there a more cosmopolitan army welded by the common sentiment of brotherhood, than that which passed in review. The heroes of Paardeberg and Brakpans are no unworthy descendants of Montcalm, Wolfe, and Brock. The Dominion is the greatest colony of the Empire, and its marvellous potentialities and vast territory, peopled by the sturdiest of sturdy Britons, are better known than ever before in her history. Although a colony, it is still a nation with a great history. Let me invite you to turn your eyes to the glowing sunset of the prairies, and while you are admiring the beauties of nature, listen to the rumbling of the ground, and if you are a seer, you will see a mighty army composed of many nationalities bent on conquest, but instead of the tramp of horses drawing cannon, the trails are marked by the instruments of peace and loyalty and truth. Let me grasp your hand and sing you a song of the Northwest, which is a bit of genuine western verse, by Moira O'Neill, who dwells at the foot of the Rocky Mountains :

"Oh, would ye hear, and would ye hear,  
Of the windy, wide Northwest ?

Faith ! 'tis a land as green as the sea,  
That rolls as far and rolls as free,  
With drifts of flowers, so many there be,  
Where the cattle roam and rest.

"Oh, could ye see, and could ye see,  
The great gold skies so clear,  
The rivers that race through the pine shade  
dark,  
The mountainous snows that take no mark,  
Sunlit and high on the Rockies stark,  
So far they seem as near.

"Then could ye feel, and could ye feel,  
How fresh is a western night !  
When the long land-breezes rise and pass  
And sigh in the rustling prairie grass,  
When the dark blue skies are clear as glass,  
And the same old stars are bright.

"But could ye know, and for ever know,  
The word of the young Northwest !  
A word she breathes to the true and bold,  
Word misknown to the false and cold,  
Word that never was spoken or sold,  
The one that knows is blest."